

from their native land, and planted them in a country flowing-with all the necessities and comforts of life; who has covered. our infancy with His providence, and our riper years with His wisdom and power; and to whose goodness I ask you to join in supplications with me, that He will so enlighten the minds of your servants, guide their councils, and prosper their measures, that whatsoever they do shall result in your good, and shall secure to you the peace, friendship, and approbation of all nations. (Annals of Congress, Second Session, Eighth Congress, p. 77.)

INDEPENDENCE.—Not only the principles of common-sense, but the feelings of human nature, must be surrendered up before his Majesty's subjects here can be persuaded to believe that they hold their political existence at the will of a British Parliament. Shall these governments be dissolved, their property annihilated, and their people reduced to a state of nature at the imperious breath of a body of men whom they never saw, in whom they never confided, and over whom they have no power of punishment or removal, let their crimes against American public be ever so great? Can any one reason be assigned why 160,000 electors in the Island of Great Britain should give law to four millions in the States of America, every individual of whom is equal to every individual of them, in virtue, in understanding<sup>1</sup>, and in bodily strength? (From "Summary View," 1774. F. I, 436.)

INDEPENDENCE.—But we do not point out to his majesty the injustice of these acts, with intent to rest on that principle the cause of their nullity; but to show that experience confirms the propriety of those political principles which exempt us from the jurisdiction of the British Parliament. The true ground on which we declare these acts void is that the British Parliament has no right to exercise its authority over us. (From "A Summary View," 1774. F. I., 434.)

INDEPENDENCE.—The British Parliament has no right to intermeddle with the support of civil government in the colonies. For us, not for them, has government been instituted here. \* \*  
\* We conceive that we alone are the judges of the